

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method of establishing a computer-based communication session involving a user of a computer, said method comprising:

receiving, from the user, notification of a desired participant in the communication session and a desired communications application to be used for the session, wherein the desired communications application is selected from multiple communications applications available for use in the session, and wherein said receiving comprises detecting selection of an icon within a graphical user interface displayed using the computer;

retrieving a participant identifier effective to identify the desired participant to the desired communications application; and

providing the retrieved participant identifier to the communications application.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said receiving further comprises detecting selection of a first displayed icon, and movement of the first icon to the position of a second displayed icon.

4. (Original) The method as recited in claim 3, wherein one of the first and second icons represents the desired participant and the other represents the desired communications application.

5. (Original) The method as recited in claim 3, wherein one of the first and second icons represents a previously-established communications session with the desired participant using a different communications application, and the other represents the desired communications application.

6. (Original) The method as recited in claim 3, wherein one of the first and second icons represents a group of desired participants and the other represents the desired communications application.

7. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said retrieving comprises accessing a data structure storing the participant identifier.

8. (Original) The method as recited in claim 7, wherein said receiving comprises receiving required participant permission or role information, and wherein said retrieving further comprises verifying participant or role information stored in the data structure.

9. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising displaying, on a display screen of the computer, a graphical user interface including representations of multiple communications applications accessible with the computer and representations of multiple potential participants in a communications session.

10. (Original) The method as recited in claim 9, wherein said representations of multiple communications applications and said representations of multiple potential participants comprise respective icons.

11. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising retrieving a user identifier appropriate to identify the user to the desired communications application.

12. (Original) The method as recited in claim 11, further comprising retrieving a password effective to allow access of the user to the desired communications application.

13-33. (Canceled)